



STATE OF WASHINGTON
WASHINGTON STATE BOARD OF HEALTH
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December 10, 2003

TO: Washington State Board of Health Members
FROM: Craig McLaughlin, Policy Manager
RE: UPDATE ON 2004 STATE HEALTH REPORT

Background and Summary

The State Board of Health is responsible for producing a biennial State Health Report “that outlines the health priorities of the ensuing biennium.” The report must be produced in January of even numbered years and the governor must approve, modify, or disapprove the report. If approved, the report is to be used by state agency administrators as a guide for preparing agency budgets and executive request legislation for the following biennium.

Attached for your review and comment is an outline of 2004 report that is longer and more detailed than the one brought to the Board in October. Please note that I am recommending addition of an eighth priority—“Safeguard clean air and water.” This suggestion is the result of recent discussions with Department of Ecology (DOE) leadership and is consistent with the results of the Governor’s “Priorities of Government.”

Though many pieces of the report have been written, there is no comprehensive draft available at this time. There are a variety of reasons for this including:

- Reliance on external inputs, such as the Washington Health Foundation values statement, that were not available until late in the year
- Recently received input from other agencies, particularly valuable discussions with DOE that did not begin until late November and are still ongoing.
- Ongoing Board discussions about key issues, including today’s agenda items related to DOE inputs, mercury, and clinical preventive services for children

I expect to submit a draft for consideration and possible adoption in January.

Recommended Board Motion

None.

Attachments